

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION PRESS REVIEW SEPT 20

1. SPECULATION ON FUTURE HUSSEIN-TERRORIST RELATIONS CP AND
IMPACT OF HUSSEIN'S AMNESTY ON TERRORISM REMAINS MAJOR
COMMENTARY ITEM. DAVAR (BARNEA FROM WASHINGTON) CLAIMS
STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCES EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER IMPLICATIONS
OF HUSSEIN'S MOVE ON TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. YEDIOT AHARONOT
(ZIMUKY) CLAIMS HUSSEIN TOLD WESTERN DIPLOMATS HE WILL
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OPPOSE RESUMPTION OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES FROM JORDAN. AL

HAMISHMAR (KAPILIUK) BELIEVES TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT RADICAL ARAB CAMP. JERUSALEM POST EDITORIAL SAY HUSSEIN'S MOVE IS "MEASURE OF CONFIDENCE." COMMENTING ON AP REPORT ON EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES BETWEEN SADAT AND BREZHNEV, DAVAR EDITORIAL CONCLUDES SADAT IS HINTING TO WASHINGTON THAT EGYPT IS OPEN TO US INITIATIVE. PRESS AND RADIO GIVE PROMINENCE TO FONMIN EBAN'S PRAISE (KNESSET, SEPT 19) OF US EFFORTS IN FACILITATING JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM USSR. HAARETZ EDITORIAL DESCRIBES AS "A LOGICAL DEMAND" AMBASSADOR KEATING'S REMARKS BEFORE ISRAEL-AMERICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE THAT US SEEKS NON-DISCRIMINATORY ACCESS TO ISRAELI MARKET.

2. HUSSEIN AND TERRORISTS: (A) JERUSALEM POST (INDEPENDENT) (SAFADA) NOTES HUSSEIN'S GAIN OF SYMPATHY AS RESULT OF AMNESTY HAS OVERSHADOWED INTENSIVE ANTI-HASHEMITE ACTIVITY IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. DIPLOMATIC REPORTER ADDS: "JERUSALEM OBSERVERS COMMENTED THAT THE BIG UNKNOWN IN THE RELEASE OF TERRORISTS WAS WHETHER THEY WOULD GO BACK TO THE NORMAL CIVILIAN LIFE, OR RESUME TERRORIST ACTIVITIES...IN JORDAN OR ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD. EDITORIAL REMARKS: "...NO ONE (IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA) BELIEVES THAT THE TERRORISTS WILL LAY DOWN THEIR CUDGELS... KING HUSSEIN KNOWS HE HAS TAKEN SOME RISK, FOR OPENING THE JAILS WILL INCREASE THE FORCES OF SUBVERSION. BUT IT IS A MEASURE OF CONFIDENCE THAT HE NOW FEELS HE CAN COPE WITH SUCH A RISK."

(B) HATZOFE (NATIONAL RELIGIOUS) EDITORIALIZES: "THE FATE OF HUSSEIN IS OF NO CONCERN TO US; HOWEVER, WE CANNOT IGNORE THE DEVELOPMENTS THAT MIGHT COME WITH THE RESUMPTION OF THE EASTERN FRONT...AND WE MUST ACT TO PREVENT ITS ACTIVATION."

(C) AL HAMISHMAR (MAPAM) WRITES: "...THE RIFT BETWEEN HUSSEIN AND THE PALESTINIANS WILL CONTINUE...THE ONLY CHANGE WILL BE IN THE CREATION OF A NEW ALIGNMENT IN THE ARAB WORLD-- THE CONFRONTATION STATES (EGYPT, SYRIA, JORDAN WITH THE ADDITION OF SAUDI ARABIA) ON THE ONE HAND AND THE PERIPHERY STATES (IRAQ, LIBYA AND ALGIERS) ON THE OTHER..(BUT THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE RADICAL CAMP."

3. ISRAEL AND EUROPE: HAARETZ, REPORTING ON FONMIN EBAN'S UNCLASSIFIED

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REMARKS TO ISRAELI AMBASSADORS TO EUROPE (IN JERUSALEM), WRITES: "EBAN NOTED THAT THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ARE CONCERNED OVER THE POLITICAL STAGNATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE AMERICANS RESUME THEIR INITIATIVE...EBAN URGED THE AMBASSADORS TO IMPRESS ON THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES THAT IT IS BETTER IF THEY EXTEND A HAND TO PLAN A CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTION OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEM AND LEAVE THE POLITICAL HANDLING OF THE PROBLEM TO THE US."

4. EGYPT AND US: COMMENTING ON AP REPORT ON EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES BETWEEN SADAT AND BREZHNEV, DAVAR (HISTADRUT) EDITORIAL REMARKS LEAK WAS MADE FOR OBVIOUS REASONS: "TO HINT TO THE US, TAKING THE SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY OF P

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NNOB CHANGES

AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT--THAT EGYPT IS OPEN TO A US INITIATIVE--OF COURSE AT THE PRICE OF WASHINGTON CHANGING ITS POSITON TOWARD ISRAEL."

5. JACKSON AMENDMENT: COMMENTING ON ISRAEL'S RESERVATION TO GIVE OPEN SUPPORT TO JACKSON AMENDMENT, DAVAR (BILBOA) WRITES: "NIXON AND HIS STAFF DID A LOT FOR ISRAEL, NOT FOR THE SAKE OF FRIENDSHIP LIKE JACKSON, BUT OUT OF SIMPLE AND SHORT-RANGE INTEREST. JUST AS THEY ACTED IN ISRAEL'S FAVOR...THEY ARE LIABLE TO ACT AGAINST IT--WHETHER THROUGH ACTIVATING THE NIXON-KISSINGER-ROGERS PLAN...OR OTHERWISE...ISRAEL HAS MANY PERSONAL FRIENDS IN THE US, LIKE JACKSON, WHO BELIEVE THEAT THE INTERESTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE BASICALLY IDENTICAL. THEY UNDERSTAND THAT THE CANAL SHOULD NOT BE REOPENED BEFORE THE EGYPTIANS PAY A HEAVY PRICE. WE SHOULD UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES DISAPPOINT SUCH FRIENDS..."

US-ISRAEL TRADE RELATIONS: "COMMENTING ON AMBASSADOR KEATING'S TUESDAY SPEECH ATTRIBUTING DECLINE IN US PERCENTAGE OF ISRAEL MARKET TO TRADE PREFERENCES GIVEN BY ISRAEL TO COMMON MARKET, HAARETZ SAYS: "IF THERE WERE ANYONE IN THE ISRAEL GOVERNMENT WHO HOPED THAT THE US WOULD OVERLOOK ANY TRADE TIES THAT AFFECT ITS EXPORTS TO ISRAEL, THE NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR HAS DISPELLED ANY SUCH ILLUSION..." DESCRIBING THE AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS AS A "LOGICAL DEMAND," HAARETZ NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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BROUGHT PROBLEM INTO THE OPEN. IT ADDED: "IT IS INCONCEIVABLE THAT A COUNTRY RECEIVING AID FROM THE US SUCH AS ISRAEL IS RECEIVING SHOULD EXERCISE DISCRIMINATION IN HER TRADE AGAINST HER MAJOR BACKER." CONCLUDING, HAARETZ URGES GOI TO SEARCH URGENTLY FOR A FORMULA THAT WILL SATISFY BOTH AMERICAN AND ISRAELI REQUIREMENTS. MOSS

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